

THE BRITISH COLONIST

Friday Morning, Feb. 16, 1866.

To Advertisers & the Public.

THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST published every morning (Sundays excepted) is the largest and most widely circulated paper in the Colony. It is published at the residence of the Proprietor, Mr. J. P. CHAPMAN, at No. 11, Market Street, at 25 cents per week, payable to the carrier.

JOB PRINTING.

THE BRITISH COLONIST has a large and complete establishment for the printing of all kinds of job printing, and is prepared to execute orders at a short notice, and at a low price.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

In future all notices of Births, Deaths, and Marriages intended for insertion in this paper must be prepaid at the following rates: For Births and Marriages, \$1.50; for Deaths, \$1.00, with funeral notice \$1.00.

A CONVENIENT "SUPPLY."

The report of the discussion given elsewhere on the British Columbia estimates, furnishes another of the innumerable arguments for a sweeping change in the Government of the neighboring colony. We have the people as in Vancouver Island, demanding a reduction in the expenses of the country, but unlike the people of Vancouver Island the inhabitants of British Columbia are powerless. The Executive brings down its estimates to the Council, and the Council is quietly told to pass them. There is no option. A few of the representative members may fret and fume and declare that the country cannot stand the expense, but they might as well have stayed at home. They are listened to—tolerated—but that is all. The Executive is the Government and does what it pleases. And if we take human nature as the standard, we do not know that the Executive is much to blame. An official's chief end is to look after his salary, and it would be expecting rather more self-denial and self-sacrifice than are to be met with generally in Governments, to look for any action on the part of an officer in the public service that would tend to decrease his yearly income. We have therefore in the Legislative Council the very natural and pleasing process of the officials voting their own salaries. Of course it is well that the non-official members should object to some of the items—it is well that something should be said against the ruinous expense of the Government; but it is in vain the boatman shouts against the waters in the canal—the torrent rushes on insensible to his voice and beyond his control. Mr. Cornwall, that intelligent representative of Yale and Lytton—saw all this, and went with the stream. When the waters boiled and foamed he indulged in the boisterous—when they glided serenely onward he became as placid, and let us say, as transparent as a pane of glass. Talk of photography—science never approached the capacity of catching the expression, the play upon the features, the artist's resemblance which this acute artist displayed in his official representations. Yale and Lytton are honored by having a representative of such a stamp. A man who can recall the retrenchment in Vancouver Island a "mad career," who can assault with violence any attempt to reduce expenditure when the income has fallen off, is a creature not to be picked up every day, and we would advise our friends of Yale and Lytton when they catch their legislative labors to put him into a bottle of alcohol and preserve him as a *lusus nature*.

TO LOAN.

In sober language, we would ask Messrs. Homer, Walkem, Holbrook and Smith if they have any respect for themselves and the people of British Columbia? If they see any dignity or usefulness in an occupation that is rendered entirely nugatory by the overwhelming official element of the Legislative Council. They can have no excuse about the motives or the determination of the Executive. They saw that the officials on every money scheme voted as one man; that, in fact, the whole programme was cut and dried before it was introduced into the Council at all. Now if these men—these officers of Government—were only responsible to the people no person could object to their partisanship and unanimity. If, for measures, under such circumstances, were good and economical, they would of course be supported by the inhabitants, and if bad, they would, along with the officials themselves, be discarded. But there is no responsibility at all. The "Crown" is too far away and too much interested in more important matters to exercise the necessary supervision over the ruling powers in British Columbia. The consequence is we have an oligarchy of the worst possible character. We again, therefore, ask the non-official members what is their peculiar business in the Council? What do they propose to do? What schemes do they intend to carry out? The only answer is "nothing." They may know by this time they can do nothing that a mere recommendation to the Executive from outside parties could effect—that, in fact, they are all placed in a false and undignified position. They are sent to the Council to carry out the people's views—to insist on a much greater economy in the administration of public affairs than has been carried on—and on the first attempt to make a reduction in the enormous salaries they are told that they cannot touch such items of expenditure because the appointments are Crown appointments. When they apply themselves to the reduction of other items, the Executive in its legislative capacity warns them to keep their hands off, and refrain from interfering in matters that do not concern them. In brief the people of British Columbia are called upon to contribute this year for the Government of the colony the sum of \$600,000, and they are given clearly and unmistakably to understand that the amount must be paid—that they shall have nothing to say in the supply—neither the how nor the wherefore. We put it to the four popular members—the curiosity from Yale and Lytton we leave to their grateful constituents—whether it would not be a wiser course, a more patriotic and less degrading course, to retire in a body from the Council Hall and appeal in a proper shape to Her Majesty's Government. If they are above being tickled by the august title of "honorable"—if they have the courage and the integrity to place the interests of the colony above private predilections or whims, they will adopt such a course, and save the reputation as well as the pocket of the people of British Columbia.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED.

A SMALL FAMILY, A GIRL TO take care of a child, and make herself useful in the house. Apply to **EUGENE THOMAS**, Sales agent.

NOTICE.

DURING MY TEMPORARY ABSENCE in San Francisco Mr. J. S. Willis holds my Power of Attorney to transact any business for me. **THOMAS DEAN**, No. 11, Market Street, Victoria, V. I., February 15th, 1866.

FOR SALE.

THOROUGHbred DURHAM BULL, rising three. **J. D. PEMBERTON**, Cottage Farm, V. I.

To Carpenters, &c.

TENDERS ARE INVITED FOR 200 YDS. of fencing on Burdett Avenue. Particulars may be obtained at the office of **PEAKES & GREEN**, Solicitors, Government street.

MAIL STEAMER.

To

Comox & Way Ports.

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, STEAMER "SIR JAMES DOUGLAS" will leave Victoria for the Settlements on the East Coast as follows: On the following days, weather permitting: **Victoria to Nanaimo every Week.**

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